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## BOOK NOTICES.

*The Philippines. A Geographical Reader. By Samuel MacClintock. 105 pp., 4 maps, and many photographic reproductions. American Book Company, New York, 1903. (Price, 40c.)*

A collection of simply-told and interesting facts and descriptions relating to our new colony. The writer is the principal of the Normal School at Cebú, and his narrative gains vigour and freshness from the fact that he has seen much that he describes. In a short chapter on the present Government, Mr. MacClintock says:

The government of the Philippines aims to secure peace and protection for all the people. It has established an excellent common school system throughout the islands, so that every person who wants an education may have it. It is building roads and bridges to afford easy passage for people and goods from place to place. It is building telegraph lines and establishing post routes, that communication may be more rapid. It is dredging rivers, cleaning out harbors, and building breakwaters for the protection of commerce. All good citizens should aid the government in every way possible. Only by so doing can peace, and justice, and happiness be secured.

*Viertausend Kilometer im Ballon. By Herbert Silberer. 136 pp., and 28 illustrations from photographs. Otto Spamer, Leipzig, 1904.*

Mr. Silberer, whose father organized the balloon service in the Austria-Hungarian army, has had at his disposition two fine balloons owned by the Aero Club of Vienna. With one or two companions, and sometimes alone, he has made many ascents from Vienna, usually of short duration, though he has sometimes drifted into Hungary, and was once carried over the mountains of South Germany to the plains of Prussia. He has selected twenty-nine of these voyages, since October, 1899, for description in this volume, and has illustrated them with photographs taken from the balloon. This novel feature adds much to the interest of his aerial adventures.

The photographs were taken at altitudes of from less than 100 to 4,400 metres above the earth. Some pictures of parts of Vienna taken at low elevations might serve fairly well as street plans, and have the additional advantage of showing the façades of many scores of buildings and the general aspects of the city within the field of view. A number of views of villages, with their two or three winding streets, the little church surrounded by gravestones, the groves and streams and the patchwork of tilled lands on all sides are especially effective. A picture taken at about 600 metres

shows an extensive region with villages dotted here and there and the winding roads that connect them. At the highest altitudes the aeronaut rode in the clear sky above the clouds, and his camera caught the glorious view of their upper surfaces resembling a frozen sea. The work is both unique and interesting.

*Geology. By Thomas C. Chamberlin and Rollin D. Salisbury. In two volumes. Vol. I. Geologic Processes and their Results. New York, Henry Holt & Company, 1904. Pp. xx, 654. Pl. 24, Tables 3, Figs. 471. Published in the American Science Series, Advanced Course.*

In this volume the authors, as a result of their long experience as instructors of geology, have departed considerably from the usual method of text-book treatment of the broad science under discussion. To quote from the preface:

Little emphasis is laid on the commonly recognized subdivisions of the science, such as *dynamic geology*, *stratigraphic geology*, *physiographic geology*, etc. The treatment proceeds rather from the point of view that the science is a unit, that its one theme is *the history of the earth*, and that the discussions of dynamic geology, physiographic geology, etc., apart from their historical bearing, lose much of their significance and interest.

As far as possible the inductive methods of the practical geologist are made use of in the treatment of the different topics, and "the theoretical and interpretative elements which enter into the general conceptions of geology have been freely used." The effort, however, is made throughout to lead the student to "avoid confusing the interpretations based on hypothesis with the statements of fact and established doctrine," and "alternative hypothesis and alternative interpretations are frequently presented where knowledge does not warrant positive conclusions."

The book contains a wealth of new material drawn from many sources, in addition to the wide personal observations of the authors, but particularly from the publications and collections of the United States Geological Survey. It is essentially a treatise on North American geology, but this is a decided advantage in the discussion of the broad principles of the science. The development with which photography as an assistant to the geologist has kept pace—has been very great during the past ten or fifteen years. Hence the new material at hand, for purposes of illustration, is extensive, and half-tone reproductions are scattered liberally through the book. The maps, thirty-eight in number, form a note-